

Newark. Group relations, Mayor's Commission on



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ON
GROUP RELATIONS

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Human Relations News

Vol. 5 No. 1

A bi-monthly summary of facts and trends in human relations and civil rights

Jan.-Feb. 1962

Mayor's Commission Sponsors Lecture Series

James Farmer, national director of C.O.R.E., will be the first speaker in the "Point of Information" lecture series sponsored by the Commission. The lectures will begin on February 7th and will continue through May.

In March, John Walsh of the American Association for the United Nations, will speak on the "United Nations and Human Rights". Dr. Harry C. Bredemeier of Rutgers University will discuss "A New Look at Welfare" in May.

Al Mark, Commission chairman, has described the purpose of these lectures as "a means of giving the interested citizens of our City and County an opportunity to meet and hear well-known personalities state their points of view on timely topics".

"Point of Information" will endeavor to have a wide range of opinions on those issues which affect our democratic institutions and will be open to the public. There will be no admission fee for the entire series.

Newark Seeks Solution to Unemployed Youth

Newark, like most big cities, has its share of unemployed out of school youth, and like some cities, has plans of doing something about this grave problem.

A conference on unemployed youth, sponsored by the City and the Council
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Mayor Leo P. Carlin Appoints Dr. Jack S. York and Mr. William T. Conway to Commission

Mayor Leo P. Carlin has appointed Dr. Jack S. York and Mr. William T. Conway to the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations.

Dr. York, a heart specialist, was born and raised in Newark and served a two-year internship at the Martland Medical Center. He is certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine as a specialist in the field. Dr. York is active on

the medical staff of St. Michael's and Beth Israel Hospitals in Newark.

Dr. York said, "As a physician, I have always been interested in human relations and I am hoping that I may be able to be of some service in the work that the Commission does."

Mr. Conway, born in Newark, attended St. Peter's High School in Belle-

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Commissioners Conway and York being sworn in. Left to right: William T. Conway, Dr. Jack S. York, Joseph Quinn and Mayor Carlin.

EDITORIAL

Each year during the month of February, we deviate from our normal routine and celebrate what we call "Brotherhood Week". This is the week in which we activate all of our energies, ideals and goodwill; and concern ourselves with our fellowman regardless of whether his is black, white, brown, yellow or red. Then for 51 weeks, we fall into our old sloppy habits and often become so narrow that we forget the basic principles upon which our country was founded.

A young Negro woman walked to the fourth floor of a building for service. Standing at the door was a middle-aged white woman who stated in a most harsh and hostile tone: "If you are here for service, just sit down and they will call you when they are ready". The visitor looked at the woman "in charge", sat down and opened a book but was unable to read. Since she was familiar with this business and how the personnel handles the visitors—who are mostly Negro—this was nothing new to her.

After sitting about ten or fifteen minutes, two young white men arrived and were waited on immediately. When the visitor questioned the woman "in charge", she turned red, then stated: "You don't have to sit down and wait, you can stand up and wait. You can do whatever you want to do—I don't care. I have nothing to do with that

Department. I work in Department X". The visitor retorted that "perhaps she would neither sit and wait nor stand and wait, but would go in for service also and this she did.

Perhaps it was the wrong week of the year. If it had been *Brotherhood Week*, she might have been waited on without waiting; or perhaps she would have been treated with courtesy, tact and regarded as a human being in need of help.

IVORY HUTCHINS

During the month of January Mayor Leo P. Carlin announced the appointment of Miss Ivory Hutchins to the post of Assistant Executive Director of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations.



Ivory Hutchins

Miss Hutchins, a resident of Newark for 9½ years, attended schools in Elizabeth and is a graduate of Battin High School of that City. She received her B.A. degree in Sociology from Rutgers University, Newark and her master of Social Work degree from the Graduate School of Social Work, Rutgers, New Brunswick.

While in Graduate School Miss Hutchins did her Field Placement Work at Camp Algonquin in Algonquin, Illinois and the Moshulu-Montefiore Community Center in the Bronx, New York.

Miss Hutchins has just completed work at the Fuld Neighborhood House where she was Group Work Supervisor.

Commission Publishes Booklet on Housing

A booklet aimed at guiding potential home buyers has been published by the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations.

The Booklet, "A Basic Primer on Buying a House," answers some of the major questions on what one should know when buying a house.

"There is a crying need in this day for the proper information on the purchase of a home not only by minority groups but by the general public as well," said Charles J. Hayes, field worker and research assistant of the Mayor's Commission, in announcing the publication of the booklet.

The 8-page guide explains "closing costs," "mortgage payment," conventional mortgage, "possession contract sale," "binders" and other such real estate terms.

Copies of the booklet are available at the offices of the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations, 214 City Hall.

(Reprinted from *The New Jersey Afro-American*, December 23, 1961)

The Queen's Truth

Some doubt the reality of progress. They insist the world changes but grows no better. Sometimes it sadly seems they may be right.

But the truth could be that the pessimists look for progress in the wrong places; that it is to be found chiefly in the souls of men. Queen Elizabeth seems to have had this in mind when, in her Christmas message, she paid tribute to

the quiet people who fight prejudice by example, who stick to standards and ideals in face of persecution, who make real sacrifices in order to help and serve their neighbors.

They slay no dragons, wave no placards, shout no slogans, march in no picket lines, join no organizations of protest, subscribe to no radical doctrines of Right or Left. But in history's long view, they—the quiet ones—do more to promote human decency and dignity than all the angry ones. For they truly love their fellow men.

(Reprinted from *Newark Evening News*, Wednesday, December 27, 1961)

Commission Offers Negro History Course

In cooperation with the Fuld Neighborhood House, the Mayor's Commission on Group Relations has started an Adult Education Course entitled, "The Negro in American History".

The course was instituted by the Commission to acquaint both Negroes and whites with the significant and worthwhile contributions which the Negro race has made to the American culture. Charles J. Hayes, who will conduct the course, said it will last for ten weeks. The group meets every other week on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. Those interested in signing up for this course should call Mr. Hayes at Mitchell 3-6300, extension 281.

ATQUE VALE

By John Steinbeck

I am constantly amazed at the qualities we expect in Negroes. No race has ever offered another such high regard. We expect Negroes to be wiser than we are, more tolerant than we are, braver, more dignified than we, more self-controlled and self-disciplined. We even demand more talent from them than from ourselves. A Negro must be ten times as gifted as a white to receive equal recognition. We expect Negroes to have more endurance than we in athletics, more courage in defeat, more rhythm and versatility in music and dancing, more controlled emotion in theatre. We expect them to obey rules of conduct we flout, to be more courteous, more gallant, more proud, more steadfast. In a word, while maintaining that Negroes are inferior to us, by our unquestioning faith in them we prove our conviction that they are superior in many fields, even fields we are presumed to be trained and conditioned in and they are not.

Let me give a few examples.

In the Alabama bus boycott we knew there would be no Negro violence—and there wasn't. The only violence was white violence.

In the streets we expect courtesy from Negroes even when we are ugly and overbearing.

In the prize ring we know a Negro will be game and will not complain at a decision.

In Little Rock we knew that any brutality would originate among the whites.

For a long time whites would not compete against Negroes for fear they might lose. It was said that their co-ordination—it was called animal co-ordination was better and their physical responses quicker.

If there is racial trouble, we are convinced that Negroes will not strike the first blow, will not attack in the night, will not set off bombs, and our belief is borne out by events.

We expect Negroes to be good-tempered and self-controlled under all circumstances.

But our greatest expectation is that they will be honest, honorable, and decent. This is the most profound compli-

ment we can pay any man or group. And the proof of this shows in our outrage when a Negro does not live up to the picture we ordinarily have of him.

With thousands of burglaries, muggings, embezzlements reported every day, we are upset when a Negro is found doing what so many whites do regularly.

In New York, with its daily reports of public thefts, deceits, and assorted political and fiscal raids on public money and treason against public trust, one Negro who succumbs to the temptation to do what many white people do fills us with dismay and the papers are full of it. What greater compliment can we pay to a people?

Finally, let me bring it down to cases. I have children, as many of you whites who read this have. Do you think your children would have the guts, the dignity, and the responsibility to go to school in Little Rock knowing they would be insulted, shoved, hated, sneered at, even spat upon day after day, and do it quietly without showing anger, petulance, or complaint? And even if they could take it, would they also get good grades?

Now I am a grown, fairly well-educated—I hope intelligent—white man. I know that violence can produce no good effect of any kind. And yet if my child were spat on and insulted, I couldn't trust myself not to get a ball bat and knock out a few brains. But I trust Negroes not to, and they haven't.

I think so much of those school children in Little Rock—a small handful who carry the will and conscience, the hopes and futures of millions in their arms. They have not let their people down. I think, what quiet pride their grandchildren can have in them knowing they came of such stock.

And then I think of the faces of the mob that tried to keep them out, faces drooling hatred, cursing and accursed faces, brave only in numbers, spitting their venom at children. And some of those faces, masked, sneaking in the night to plant a bomb—the final weapon of a coward.

What pride can their descendants take in their ancestry? But of course they will forget, or die, or both.

When Martin Luther King was stabbed by a hysterical woman, he

might well have felt some anger or hurt or despair. But his first words on coming out of the anesthetic were: "Don't let them hurt her. She needs help."

Perhaps some of the anger against Negroes stems from a profound sense of their superiority, and perhaps their superiority is rooted in having a cause and an unanswerable method composed of courage, restraint, and a sense of direction.

(Reprint from *Saturday Review*)

IF A CHILD LIVES

- "If a child lives with criticism,
he learns to condemn . . .
 - If a child lives with hostility,
he learns to fight . . .
 - If a child lives with fear,
he learns to be apprehensive.
 - If a child lives with jealousy,
he learns to feel guilty . . .
 - If a child lives with tolerance,
he learns to be patient . . .
 - If a child lives with encouragement,
he learns to be confident . . .
 - If a child lives with praise,
he learns to be appreciative . . .
 - If a child lives with acceptance,
he learns to love . . .
 - If a child lives with approval,
he learns to like himself . . .
 - If a child lives with recognition,
he learns that it is good to have a goal . . .
 - If a child lives with honesty,
he learns what truth is . . .
 - If a child lives with fairness,
he learns justice . . .
 - If a child lives with security,
he learns to have faith in himself and those about him . . .
 - If a child lives with friendliness,
he learns the world is a nice place in which to live . . .
- With what is your child living?

(Reprint from *Newsletter-Young Israel*)

BROTHERHOOD WEEK

February 18-25, 1962

BELIEVE IT . . .
LIVE IT . . .
PRACTICE IT . . .

52 Weeks A Year

Maya's Commission on Group Relations



James Farmer (right) director of C.O.R.E., talks with Al Mark, (left) chairman of Mayor's Commission, and Mrs. Grace Fenderson of the Newark Chapter, N.A.A.C.P.

C.O.R.E. Leader Discusses Equality For All Americans

Mr. James Farmer, Nat'l Director of the Congress of Racial Equality was the first speaker in the "Point of Information" lecture series sponsored by the Mayor's Commission Feb. 7, 1962 at the YM-YWCA, at 8 p.m.

Mr. Farmer stated that human relations should be of importance to all people. He said, "The problem of race is a world-wide struggle and we are all a part of the struggle. Our Nation is a Nation in struggle, struggling to realize its ideals".

Freedom Rides, according to Mr. Farmer will eventually end segregation in both the North and South. Mr. Farmer said, "Freedom is indivisible. It doesn't matter who reaches the moon first, but it does matter whether or not we can heal the split personality of our nation."

Unemployed Youth

(Continued from page 1, column 1)

of Social Agencies was held recently at the Essex House. Mayor Leo P. Carlin expressed great concern over the fact that this problem exists and pledged his support and the support of the City of Newark in seeking a workable solution.

Participants in the Conference come from many professional backgrounds with diverse experiences and as a result there was a wide range in the discussion which took place in the workshops following the Conference.

Several recommendations came out of the Conference, one of which was that a Citizens Advisory Committee (task force) be appointed by the Mayor to deal with the problems of jobless, out of school youth—a problem which affects every citizen in Newark directly and the entire nation indirectly.

SELECTED READING

Conant, James Bryan. **SEMI-AND SEMI-SEMI.** McGraw-Hill, 1961.

"The shocking story of bold contrasts in the public schools of the wealthy suburbs and the city slums, and the many-sided efforts at their possible counter-balances."

Karriz, Milton R. **A CENTURY OF CIVIL RIGHTS.** Columbia University Press, 1961. Combined with

"The State Law Against Discrimination" edited by Theodore Leikes.

"The progress of the Supreme Court Civil Rights cases since the 1883 Decision; the philosophical and historical civil rights developments of the past century."

Davis, Christopher. **FIRST FAMILY.** Coward-McCann Press, 1961. Fiction.

"The areas of color-barrier resolved on both sides through the arrival of a cultured Negro family into a middle-class white neighborhood."

Shawell, Louis R. **THE HARVESTERS.** Doubleday, 1961.

"The migrant farm laborer of many neighboring nations and the best of inadequate civil laws that offer no protection against the difficult loss of security of housing and education."

Rogaw, Arnold A. **THE JEW IN A GENTILE WORLD.** MacMillan, 1961.

"Excerpts of literature and history, miscellaneous essays and speeches depicting the Jewish People as consistent scapegoats through the ages."

Two New Commissioners

(Continued from page 1, column 3)

vile and Columbia University. He has had a varied work experience as a social work investigator, state field supervisor for a Negro Vocational Survey, state supervisor and statistician, research editor for Federal Arts and Crafts, coordinator of the National Youth Administration, and at the present is Weightmaster at Federated Metals, Div. A. S. and R.

Mr. Conway is secretary of the Executive Board of Local No. 143, United Auto Workers, and is involved in other union activities.

Mayor Carlin expressed the need for more trained leaders such as Dr. York and Mr. Conway who would assist Newark in fulfilling its mission of a better life for its citizenry.

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